

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 00274 100917Z

46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NASA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 SCCT-01 IO-10 NIC-01 OMB-01 /081 W

----- 090711

R 100800Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6943

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0274

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MA

SUBJECT: DISSIDENT OFFICER PROBLEM STILL HANGS OVER MADAGASCAR

DEPT PASS DIA

REFS: A. TANANARIVE 0193; B. TANANARIVE 0249

BEGIN SUMMARY: CLOUD RAISED BY DISSIDENT COTIER OFFICERS
PERSISTS, WITH THEIR PUBLIC REJECTION OF RATSIMANDRAVA
GOVERNMENT. PREVALENT VIEW CONTINUES BE THAT AFFAIR WILL
BE RESOLVED PEACEABLY, BUT WE CANNOT RULE OUT SOME
POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE UNTIL ISSUE IS CLOSED. END
SUMMARY.

1. PROBLEM OF DISSIDENT COTIER OFFICERS WHO ATTEMPTED
COUP D'ETAT OF DEC 31 AND TOOK REFUGE IN ARMED POLICE
CAMP IN TANANARIVE REMAINS UNRESOLVED. THIS CLEAR FROM
COMMUNIQUE OF THEIR "PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF MILITARY,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TANANA 00274 100917Z

GENDARMES AND POLICE FOR PRESERVATION OF NATION UNITY

OF MADAGASCAR" (CARRIED IN FEB 8 PRESS) ATTACKING NEW RATSIMANDRAVA GOVERNMENT AS "FORM OF USURPATION OF POWER AND TREASON" BECAUSE OF ITS CHOICE OF MINISTERS ON BASIS OF FIDELITY TO THEIR CHIEF, AND NOT FOR THEIR ACCEPTABILITY IN REPRESENTING THEIR PROVINCES OF ORIGIN.

2. COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR FORMATION OF "NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY" WHICH WOULD ORGANIZE NEW ELECTIONS. (THIS SIMILAR TO LINE CONTINUING TO BE TAKEN BY OPPOSITION SOCIALIST PARTY OF EX-PRESIDENT TSIRANANA AND RESAMPA, AND THUS CONFIRMS POLITICAL LINKS BETWEEN DISSIDENT FORCES AND THIS PARTY.) COMMUNIQUE ALSO REAFFIRMS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED OBJECTIVES OF DISSIDENT OFFICERS RE PROPORTIONAL DISTRIBUTION ETHNICALLY OF CABINET AND SECURITY FORCE COMMAND POSTS (REF A).

3. DESPITE ABOVE, PREVALENT VIEW IN TANANARIVE CONTINUES BE THAT THIS PROBLEM OF DISSIDENT OFFICERS WILL BE SETTLED PEACEABLY, PROBABLY THROUGH GOVERNMENT MANESTY. IN SUPPORT OF THIS VIEW IS APPARENT FACT THAT NEW MINISTER INTERIOR, GILBERT SAMBSON, KNOWN TO BE REASONABLY CLOSE TO CERTAIN OF DISSIDENTS, IS IN TOUCH WITH THEM ON BEHALF OF NEW GOVERNMENT. WE UNDERSTAND FROM RELIABLE SOURCE ALSO THAT NEW COMMANDER OF GENDARMERIE WILL BE A COTIER, LT. COLONEL MAMPILA, WHO HAS BEEN SERVING AS PROVINCE CHIEF OF MAJUNGA AND WHO IS BEING RECALLED FROM RETIRMENT TO ACTIVE DUTY AS GENDARMERIE OFFICER TO TAKE OVER GENDARMERIE. THIS APPOINTMENT MAY HELP ASSUAGE DISSIDENTS. IN ADDITION, COLONEL RAJAONARISON, RAKING DISSIDENT OFFICER, WAS RETIRED FROM ACTIVE SERVICE FEB 1, WHICH MAY MAKE IT TECHNICALLY EASIER FOR GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT AMNESTY.

4. HOWEVER, EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE FEEL SOME APPREHENSION ABOUT POSSIBLE VIOLENCE UNTIL THIS AFFAIR RESOLVED. NEW CHIEF OF STATE, COLONEL RATSIMANDRAVA, IS HARDER AND TOUGHER MAN THAN PREDECESSOR, GENERAL RAMANANTSOA. WE CANNOT RULE OUT THAT HIS PATIENCE COULD GROW SHORT IF DISSIDENTS SHOULD CONTINUE HOLD OUT FOR TERMS RESEMBLING POLITICAL POSITION OF SOCIALIST PARTY, WHICH APPEARS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TANANA 00274 100917Z

REPUGNANT TO RATSIMANDRAVA.
MENDENHALL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, CABINET, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TANANA00274
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750048-0078
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750256/aaaabyek.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TANANARIVE 0193, 75 TANANARIVE 0249
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISSIDENT OFFICER PROBLEM STILL HANGS OVER MADAGASCAR DEPT PASS DIA
TAGS: PINS, MA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006